

26th August 1925]

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ As stated in the answer, the resolution was not received. Apparently the copy of the resolution must have been mislaid in the Post office or somewhere else *en route*. But now that the hon. Member has made a responsible statement, I shall cause inquiries to be made as to whether the depressed classes were actually excluded in the manner alleged.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ Thank you, Sir. I have no objection to hand over this mahazar to the hon. Member later on.”

Irrigation.

Baling cases in the channels of the Periyar system.

* 446 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether in cases where baling is allowed as a matter of practice in Periyar system, any penal assessment or any special rate is imposed ;

(b) if so, on what basis the assessment is raised ;

(c) whether the theory mentioned in connexion with the supplementary question to question No. 111, dated 5th February 1925, has been investigated by the Chief Engineer ; and

(d) the number of baling cases in the different channels of the Periyar system including Tenkasi channel ?

A.—(a) & (b) All irrigation of dry lands whether by baling or not requires permission ; and if it is allowed, no penal assessment is charged—the charge is three-fourths of the ordinary water-rate.

(c) The Chief Engineer is still awaiting a report from the Superintending Engineer.

(d) 72.

Deputy Collectors.

Special Deputy Collectors to try revenue suits.

* 447 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) on how many occasions Special Deputy Collectors have been appointed to try revenue suits from the year 1915 to 1924 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that all these officers were appointed to help only I.C.S. officers in charge of Revenue divisions ; and

(c) whether any one of these Deputy Collectors at any time helped as a matter of fact any Deputy Collectors in charge of Revenue divisions and, if so, how many and in what years ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Additional Deputy Collectors for the disposal of revenue suits are usually appointed with reference to the amount of such work in a district as a whole rather than in a particular division. The indexes therefore show only the districts where such officers are appointed ; and to compile the

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information desired by the hon. Member it would be necessary to examine the records in each case. As the average number of suits in an Indian Civil Service division according to the latest statistics is twice as many as in a Provincial Civil Service division it is probable that the additional assistance was most required for Indian Civil Service divisions, but this has not invariably been the case.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"May I know whether the Government can give us some idea of the number of cases in these divisions? The answer contains such vague phrases such as 'large number of cases,' 'double the ordinary number,' 'it is not invariably the case'. My suggestion is that whatever may be the division, whether it is Indian Civil Service division or Provincial Service division, the deputy collectors in charge of such divisions have not had any assistance."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"When the question was sent in the records were looked into, and out of some dozen cases taken out, there were three or four in which assistance was required in Provincial Service divisions."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"I want to know whether deputy collectors in charge of Indian Civil Service divisions were at any time given this assistance?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"It is difficult to say, Sir, because when an additional man is posted to the district it is possible that the division might or might not have been in charge of a deputy collector. We have to look up the records and I could not say off-hand."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Sir, in the pre-reform Council I moved a resolution that only deputy collectors who are B.A.'s and B.L.'s, should as far as possible be posted for doing this work of special deputy collectors for trial of suits under the Estates Land Act, and the Government gave an assurance that they would try to post such people as far as possible. May I know whether this wholesome principle has been kept in view as far as possible, for I have seen that there are number of qualified deputy collectors available and yet I have not seen them appointed to these places?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I do not know, Sir, and I would require notice of the question."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Will the hon. Member look into the matter and see what can be done in the matter?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"If the hon. Member will put down a question, yes."

Economic Condition.

Destruction of houses by fire in Kalambur.

* 448 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that almost the whole of the Vanniar street in Kalambur, near Arni, in North Arcot district, consisting of 44 houses was completely burnt down recently;